Examiner-Initiated Interview Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/753,606	FRAZIER ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Thomas A. Morrison	3653	

All Participants:

(1) *Thomas A. Morrison*.

(2) _____.

Status of Application: *Allowed*

(3) *Eric Overberger (Reg. No. 48,556)*.

(4) _____.

Date of Interview: _____

Time: _____

Type of Interview:

☒ Telephonic
☐ Video Conference
☐ Personal (Copy given to: ☐ Applicant ☐ Applicant's representative)

Exhibit Shown or Demonstrated: ☐ Yes ☒ No
If Yes, provide a brief description:

Part I.

Rejection(s) discussed:
None

Claims discussed:
2, 3, 5, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 14

Prior art documents discussed:
None

Part II.

SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW DESCRIBING THE GENERAL NATURE OF WHAT WAS DISCUSSED:
See Continuation Sheet

Part III.

☒ It is not necessary for applicant to provide a separate record of the substance of the interview, since the interview directly resulted in the allowance of the application. The examiner will provide a written summary of the substance of the interview in the Notice of Allowability.

☐ It is not necessary for applicant to provide a separate record of the substance of the interview, since the interview did not result in resolution of all issues. A brief summary by the examiner appears in Part II above.

(Examiner/SPE Signature)

(Applicant/Applicant's Representative Signature – if appropriate)

Continuation of Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was discussed: Contacted Mr. Overberger (applicant's representative) on 11/10/2005 to get authorization to amend the specification and claims 2, 3, 5, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 14 as indicated in a proposed amendment (copy attached). Claims 2 and 12 were amended to remove the numbers in parenthesis and provide proper antecedent basis, claim 3 was amended to add a period, claim 5 was amended to provide proper antecedent basis, claim 9 was amended to consistently use the terms "nudger shaft" and clarify the "pick frame", claim 10 was amended to depend from claim 9 instead of claim 7, claim 11 was amended to clarify that there are multiple bearings and recesses, and claim 14 was amended to change "means" to -- mechanism --. The proposed amendments were discussed with a primary examiner prior to contacting Mr. Overberger on 11/10/2005. Mr. Overberger authorized the changes on 11/11/2005 and authorized charging Account 06-0308 for a one-month extension of time. Mr. Overberger suggested changing the word "that" to the word "to" in the proposed amendment of claim 11 to read better. Such change was incorporated in the examiner's amendment.

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Fax Cover Sheet

Date: 10 Nov 2005

To: Mr. Erik Overberger	**From:** Thomas A. Morrison
Application/Control Number: 10/753,606	**Art Unit:** 3653
Fax No.: 216-241-1666	**Phone No.:** (571) 272-7221
Voice No.: 216-861-5582	**Return Fax No.:** (571) 273-7221
Re:	**CC:**

☐ **Urgent** ☐ **For Review** ☒ **For Comment** ☐ **For Reply** ☐ **Per Your Request**

Comments:
Mr. Overberger:
Attached is a draft amendment for your review and comment. Please let me know of the proposed amendments to the specification and claims are acceptable. If so, I can make such changes by examiner's amendment. Please call me at 571-272-7221. The proposed changes were discussed with a primary examiner prior to faxing to Mr. Overberger.

Regards,

Examiner Tom Morrison

Number of pages 8 including this page

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Overberger (Registration No. 48,556) on November 11, 2005.

On page 6, the numbered paragraph [0029] has been amended as follows:

-- [0029] The nudger ~~roller~~ shaft 54 is connected to the pick roller shaft 48 for rotation therewith such that rotation of the pick roller shaft [[54]] 48 causes simultaneous rotation of the nudger ~~roller~~ shaft [[48]] 54. More specifically, a pick roller gear 66 is rotatably fixed to the pick roller shaft 48. Likewise, a nudger roller gear 68 is rotatably fixed to the nudger ~~roller~~ shaft 54. An idler gear 70 is rotatably mounted to the pick frame 46 between the pick roller gear 66 and the nudger roller gear 68. Teeth of the idler gear 70 mesh with teeth of the pick roller gear 66 and the nudger roller gear 68 such that the idler gear 70 is engaged to both gears 66,68 so that rotation of the pick roller shaft 48 rotates the pick roller gear which rotates the nudger ~~roller~~ shaft 54 through the idler gear 70 and the nudger roller gear 68. A driven gear 72 is fixed to one end of the pick roller shaft 48 and positioned within the printer device 10 for selective engagement with an associated drive gear (not shown). Through a power means such

as a motor (not shown), the associated drive gear is positioned to selectively rotate the driven gear 72 and, as described above, the pick and nudger rollers 18,20. --

DONALD WALSH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently Amended) The sheet feeder and separator assembly of claim 5 [[1]] wherein said at least one flexible bearing has a variable first dimension along a first axis for allowing removal of said at least one flexible bearing from said at least one bearing recess when said first dimension is aligned with ~~a~~ said opening width of said at least one bearing recess and has a substantially constant second dimension along a second axis angularly offset relative to said first axis for preventing removal of said at least one flexible bearing from said at least one bearing recess when said second dimension is aligned with said opening width.

3. (Original) The sheet feeder and separator assembly of claim 2 wherein said second axis is approximately normal to said first axis

4. (Original) The sheet feeder and separator assembly of claim 2 wherein said at least one flexible bearing fixes the position of the pick module assembly along said second axis relative to the frame when said second dimension is aligned with said opening width.

5. (Currently Amended) A [[The]] sheet feeder and separator assembly ~~of claim 1~~ for separating and sequentially feeding individual print media sheets from a stack thereof, comprising:

a frame having at least one bearing recess;

a print media tray carried by said frame;

a separator connected to said print media tray; and

a pick module assembly removably connected to said frame adjacent said print media tray, said pick module assembly including a pick roller adjacent said separator to form a nip and at least one flexible bearing removably received in said at least one bearing recess and removably connecting said pick module assembly to said frame, wherein said at least one bearing recess has an opening width that is smaller than a diameter of said at least one flexible bearing requiring said diameter of said at least one flexible bearing to be selectively variable along a first axis aligned with said opening width of said at least one bearing recess for insertion and removal of said at least one flexible bearing from said at least one bearing recess.

6. (Original) The sheet feeder and separator assembly of claim 5 wherein said frame is constructed of a substantially rigid material that resists deformation when said at least one flexible bearing is inserted in or removed from said at least one bearing recess.

7. (Currently Amended) The sheet feeder and separator assembly of claim 5 [[1]] wherein said pick module assembly includes:

a pick frame; and

a pick roller shaft rotatably mounted to said pick frame by said at least one flexible bearing and having said pick roller connected to said pick roller shaft, said pick roller rotatably fixed to said pick roller shaft when said pick roller shaft is rotated in a first direction and said pick roller rotatable relative to said pick roller shaft when said pick roller shaft is rotated in a second direction.

8. (Original) The sheet feeder and separator assembly of claim 7 wherein said at least one flexible bearing includes:

a grooved portion received within a pick frame bearing recess to rotatably connect said at least one flexible bearing to said pick frame;

at least one walled portion axially disposed in said grooved portion to limit rotation of said at least one flexible bearing within said pick frame bearing recess; and

a pair of opposed axially extending portions having opposed radial portions adjacent said pick roller shaft that have a substantially fixed diameter thereacross and opposed

fingers extending from said radial portions and being radially spaced from said pick roller shaft that have a flexible, varying diameter thereacross.

9. (Original) The sheet feeder and separator assembly of claim 7 wherein said pick module assembly further includes:

a nudger roller rotatably mounted to said pick frame adjacent said pick roller by a nudger shaft;

a pick roller gear rotatably fixed to said pick roller shaft;

a nudger roller gear rotatably fixed to said nudger roller shaft;

an idler gear rotatably mounted to said pick frame and engaged with said pick roller gear and said nudger roller gear so that rotation of said pick roller shaft causes rotation of said nudger roller; and

a driven gear mounted to said pick roller shaft for connection to an associated drive gear.

10. (Original) The sheet feeder and separator assembly of claim 9 wherein said pick roller and said nudger roller each include frictional roller treads nonrotatably mounted thereto.

11. (Currently Amended) A [[The]] sheet feeder and separator assembly ~~of claim 1 wherein said frame includes~~ for separating and sequentially feeding individual print media sheets from a stack thereof, comprising:

a frame having ~~at least one bearing recess~~ a pick module recess and a pair of bearing recesses adjacent thereto;

a print media tray carried by said frame;

a separator connected to said print media tray, and

a pick module assembly removably connected to said frame adjacent said print media tray, said pick module assembly including a pick roller adjacent said separator to form a nip ~~and at least one flexible bearing removably received in said at least one bearing recess and removably connecting said pick module assembly to said frame~~, said pick module assembly having a pair of flexible bearings received in said pair of bearing

that removably connect said pick module assembly to said frame and recesses for removably mounting said pick module assembly in said pick module recess, [[and]] each of said pair of flexible bearings has a second dimension parallel with a respective opening width of said pair of bearing recesses so that said pick module assembly is locked to said frame until said pick module assembly is rotated so that a first dimension of each of said pair of flexible bearings is parallel with said respective opening width.

12. (Currently Amended) A [[The]] sheet feeder and separator assembly ~~of claim 1 further including~~ for separating and sequentially feeding individual print media sheets from a stack thereof, comprising:

a frame having at least one bearing recess;

a print media tray carried by said frame;

a separator connected to said print media tray;

a pick module assembly removably connected to said frame adjacent said print media tray, said pick module assembly including a pick roller adjacent said separator to form a nip and at least one flexible bearing removably received in said at least one bearing recess and removably connecting said pick module assembly to said frame; and

an actuator assembly having an arm pivotally mounted to said frame and including a fork that engages an extending member of said pick module assembly and a biasing mechanism urging said arm toward an arm first position that holds said pick module assembly in an operative position, said arm movable toward a second position when a force is applied that overcomes said urging of said biasing mechanism wherein said fork disengages said extending member allowing said pick module assembly to be moved to a semi-engaged position for disconnection from said frame.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Original) The sheet feeder and separator assembly of claim 12 wherein gravity moves said pick module assembly from said operative position to said semi-engaged position when said force is applied against said urging of said biasing ~~means~~ mechanism.

15. (Currently Amended) The sheet feeder and separator assembly of claim 12 [[1]] wherein said separator is a retard roller assembly removably connected to said print media tray for replacement thereof, said retard roller assembly including a retard roller and a bias mechanism urging said retard roller into said pick roller.

16. (Original) The sheet feeder and separator assembly of claim 12 [[1]] wherein said separator is one of an active retard roller, a semi-active retard roller and a separator pad.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Cancelled)